United States Senate

COMMITTEES ARMED SERVICES

COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

May 23, 2019

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

The Honorable Gene Dodaro Comptroller General of the United States U.S. Government Accountability 441 G Street NW Washington, DC 20548

Dear Comptroller General Dodaro:

I write to request that the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) investigate allegations of waste, fraud and abuse within the Selective Service System. These allegations include the Director's potential abuse of remote work policies; issuance of discriminatory dress code policy; wasteful, inappropriate or even unlawful obligations on travel spending and improper use of noncompetitive hiring authorities to circumvent and undermine merit system principles.

Such allegations would often be directed to an agency's Office of Inspector General (OIG). However, like many small independent agencies, the Selective Service System is free from oversight by an independent OIG and to date, Congress has not authorized another agency OIG with jurisdiction over the Selective Service System. The absence of an OIG must not empower an agency head to engage in waste, fraud or abuse. Fortunately, there is redundancy in congressionally-established oversight structures, as evidenced by the fact that GAO and respective Inspectors General often coordinate on engagements to avoid duplication of effort.

Accordingly, I ask that GAO examine the Selective Service System's compliance with merit system principles, evaluate the Director's compliance with applicable telework policies and confirm whether from April 2017 through the present, the Director complied with all applicable Federal travel statutory requirements, regulatory requirements and existing Federal policies governing Federal travel spending, justification and disclosure.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my request. I look forward to receiving your timely response.

Sincerely.

Tammy Duckworth

United States Senator

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